

Stakeholder Engagement for Inclusive Water Governance

This report assesses the current trends, drivers, obstacles, mechanisms, impacts, costs and benefits of stakeholder engagement in the water sector. It builds on empirical data collected through an extensive survey across 215 stakeholders, within and outside the water sector, and 69 case studies collected worldwide. It highlights the increasing importance of stakeholder engagement in the water sector as a principle of good governance and the need for better understanding of the pressing and emerging issues related to stakeholder engagement. These include: the shift of power across stakeholders; the arrival of new entrants that ought to be considered; the external and internal drivers that have triggered engagement processes; innovative tools that have emerged to manage the interface between multiple players, and types of costs and benefits incurred by engagement at policy and project levels. This report provides pragmatic policy guidance to decision makers and practitioners in the form of key principles and a Checklist for Public Action with indicators, international references and self-assessment questions, which together can help policy makers to set up the appropriate framework conditions needed to yield the short and long-term benefits of stakeholder engagement.



Table of Contents

Stakeholder engagement and the water agenda; Drivers of stakeholder engagement in the water sector; Mapping water-related stakeholders at all levels; Obstacles to engaging stakeholders in the water sector; Stakeholder engagement mechanisms in the water sector; Assessing stakeholder engagement in the water sector; Stakeholder engagement in the water sector: Key principles and a checklist for action; Stakeholders' profiles

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Publication Date: 15/05/2015

ISBN13: 9781780407630

eISBN: 9781780407647

Pages: 279

Print:

Standard price: £55 / €69 / \$83

Member price: £41 / €52 / \$62

eBook:

Standard price: £55 / €69 / \$83

Member price: £41 / €52 / \$62